

## APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER

Our overall membership has again increased this year with strong interest from artists wishing to join us either as associates or as exhibiting members

Roy Holley will again be arranging the Wednesday Outdoor painting sessions this summer. Roy will be listing dates and venues in the next newsletter and if you are free on Wednesdays you would be very welcome to join in.

In the Spring Exhibitions this year: Fiona Dales' "Cockerel" was selected as the winner of the WVAS Award with Alan Olivers "Yorkshire River" and Barbara Allens' "A Derbyshire Dale" highly commended. We had 2,116 visitors to the show, sales were a little disappointing at £2440 with only 12 exhibits and 9 pieces from the browsers

Our Autumn Exhibition saw a slight improvement with 2266 visitors and sales totalling £3,340. 17 exhibit pieces were sold plus 20 more from the browsers. Fiona Dale again was the prize winner with "Young Girl" awarded the Gladys Teesdale Prize. Three pictures were highly commended: Joanna Crawford's "Apples on a plate" and Philip Spence with "Backsides" and Pru Pye with "Metamorphosis".

Congratulations to Fiona for winning both prizes last year. It must be noted that it is the visiting selector for each exhibition that chooses the prize winner - just in case you think the committee has been knobbed.

Many visitors and members seemed to enjoy the themed part of the exhibition. The award for the 'Seasons' Category was won by Carol Hamilton for her painting "Winter"

The last two years have past very quickly and it has been my pleasure to act as President.(most of the time). Now it only remains for me pass on the presidency to the safe hands of Nick Hart. I wish him, the committee and the whole Society a creative and prosperous future.

*Jonty Meyer*

### Your Committee

President	Nick Hart
Vice-President	Jonty Meyer
President-Elect	TBA
Secretary	Alan Lyne
Treasurer	Anne Gillespie
Membership Secretary	Doreen Whitaker
Exhibition Secretary	Chris Illsley
Activities Secretary	Mike Alabaster
Newsletter Secretary	Huw Wigmore
Committee members:	
	Barbara Allen
	Ros Nicol
	Helen Chadband
	Philip Spence
	Sylvie Stanway
	Marlena Adams
	Roy Holley
	Wendy de Verteuil



For those who haven't yet seen it - I give you the Monstrous Carbuncle

### Ready, Steady, GO!

Well this is the time of year when the society really gets started with the Spring Exhibition looming. Despite the drawbacks of the gallery bar we are expecting our bestest exhibition yet. The problems with lack of space will be alleviated with the use of free-standing exhibition boards arranged in a triangular fashion at the end furthest from the bar. The bar furniture will be removed during our exhibition and the bar itself will be reduced in size. When some of these things are due to happen, we don't know. Please feel free to encourage the council to sling it's hook at every opportunity.

Those all important dates ( apologies they weren't very clear in the last newsletter):

Your entry forms will be included with this newsletter, which gives you at least two weeks before...

Saturday 23rd April - deadline for entry forms to reach me.

Saturday 30th April - Handing in of your correctly labeled works of art.

Sunday 1st May - Private Showing for members and invited guests.

Monday 2nd May - Spring exhibition open to the public.

Saturday 14th May - taking down and close of exhibition.

Please note the times and instructions attached. If you have any queries please contact our exhibition secretary - Chris Illsley (01780) 766889

As usual those of us who are but lowly associate members will just be getting an invitation to the private viewing (hurrah) and your subscription demand (boo).

What outstanding value for money.

## WVAS Annual General Meeting Tuesday 15th March 2011.



The great and the good of the Society gathered in the Wilfred Wood Gallery at the appointed hour despite some confusion as to what the appointed hour was. This was down to me printing conflicting times in the newsletter and agenda, for which I humbly apologise.

Any road up, a rip roaring time was had by all, it was a fantastic knees-up, shame so many of you missed it. Having said that there was a pretty good turn-out of 32!

The President retired after his two years in charge (his report appears later in the newsletter). Long live the new President (our oldest yet!). Tony Wass retired as Membership Secretary and we welcome Doreen Whitaker to the role. The other retiring committee members have been replaced by Marlena Adams and Sylvie Stanway, to which we should add, Hurrah and welcome aboard.

## Subscriptions

You will all be glad to hear that due to the good stewardship of our fine vessel by the committee and the excellent book-cooking by Anne Gillespie there is no need to raise subscription for yet another year. Your subscription slips are also enclosed in this monster mailing, so while your writing your entry fee cheques you can write another for your subs!

## President's Report

Firstly I would like to thank you all for attending the AGM.

I feel I must comment on the greatest challenge faced during my Presidency - The Bar foisted onto the Arts Centre by the local Council. The Wilfred Wood Gallery is and has been at the heart of our society. I am certain we really think of it as our gallery. On seeing the bar in the gallery. My first thought was to be reminded of Prince Charles' remark on the extension of the national gallery "A monstrous carbuncle on the face of a much-loved friend".

I would like to thank all of our members and the public that signed the petition against the bar remaining in the gallery. Unfortunately the petition has not had the full attention of the South Kesteven District Council, Council officers have decided it does not match their petition criteria, what ever that may mean, and the matter has not been discussed by the Council.

It seems the Council, or more accurately, certain Council Officers, have made their/its decision. We have been informed by Paul Stokes from South Kesteven District Council that they have decided that the cellar bar and the gallery bar will both be kept.

However the slightly better news is that Graham Burley from the Arts Centre has indicated that the size of the bar can be reduced (as they are now keeping the cellar bar) He said he would keep us informed. (I last saw Graham last Friday and the plan is still to reduce the size. However he was unable to give us a date for the work to be done).

This has to be our highest priority this year to see that South Kesteven District Council and the Arts Centre fulfill their commitment.

At a separate meeting with the Arts Centre to discuss the forthcoming exhibitions this year. They have said that during our exhibitions the staff will remove the chairs and tables in the gallery.

Chris our exhibition secretary has also asked me to mention that the art centre has said we can use a triangular exhibition stand in our exhibition and hopefully this will allow us to hang a similar number of paintings.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee, who have so generously given their valuable time and help to the successful running and management of the Society.

Alan Lyne, our Secretary and Ann Gillespie our Treasurer, the administrative backbone of the society.

Chris Ilsley, for once again producing two excellent shows. Exhibition Secretary has to be one of the hardest positions on the committee. A special thank you for all your hard work.

Huw Wigmore continues to work tirelessly on his informative and lively newsletter.

I would like to thank Mike Alabaster for organising the highly successful coach trips and the very interesting and informative Sunday workshops.

Tony Wass our membership secretary. Tony is leaving the committee and I would like to thank him for his hard work over the last few years

I would also like to offer our best wishes and sincerely thanks to the retiring committee members on behalf of the Society for all their hard work.



Some 19th Century Conceptual Art - In case your wondering the shark is under the boat.

